

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DEPLOYMENTS

SERVICEMEMBERS RESIDING IN GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED HOUSING

1. Can I keep my on-post quarters during deployment?

Answer: YES. Deployed Service members are authorized and encouraged to keep their Government-controlled housing for the duration of the deployment. Family members may remain in Government-controlled housing until the sponsor returns from the deployment. Spouses who remain in their assigned Government-controlled housing assume responsibility for the housing.

2. Will I be moved while my spouse is deployed?

Answer: Families residing in Government-controlled housing will not be involuntarily moved from current Family housing on deployment of the sponsor, even if Family housing is scheduled for return to the host-nation Government. Families of deployed Service members may be involuntarily moved only with the explicit approval of the garrison commander and according to Army in Europe Supplement 1 to AR 420-1. Families residing in housing units programmed for return to the host nation may elect to be voluntarily relocated at Government expense.

3. If I terminate my on-post quarters and send my family back to the United States while I am deployed, can I get on-post quarters when I come back from the deployment?

Answer: If a Service member terminates Government-controlled housing for personal convenience, the Service member may reapply for Family housing when he or she returns from deployment if the Service member has at least 6 months remaining in the command. The eligibility date would be the date of the application. Temporary lodging allowance (TLA) is not authorized while waiting for Family housing to become available. If Family members return before the Service member signs for Government-controlled housing, all expenses incurred while waiting for housing will be the responsibility of the Service member.

Service members who elect early return of dependents to the continental United States (CONUS) at Government expense are eligible to reapply for housing on return from deployment if they have at least 12 months remaining in the command and command sponsorship is reestablished. The eligibility date would be the date command sponsorship is reestablished.

4. If I send my family back to the United States at personal expense, can I keep my on-post quarters while I am deployed?

Answer: Family members who elect to return to CONUS at personal expense may continue to keep Government-controlled housing while the Service member is deployed if the relocation is temporary and the Family plans to return to Family housing. No time limit is associated with absence from quarters. Family members are required to identify a POC who will be in charge of their Family housing and will be expected to maintain the housing according to standard occupancy requirements and responsibilities. The name and address of the POC must be provided in writing to the housing division and rear detachment commander. If a POC is not identified to maintain the Family housing and the spouse cannot be contacted, coordination will be made with the rear detachment commander to contact the deployed Service member before terminating the housing proceeds.

5. Can single parents and married Army couples (dual military couples) keep their on-post quarters when deployed?

Answer: Single parents and married Army couples, even if both are deployed, may keep Army Family housing. When children are involved, a nondependent Family member may reside in the quarters to act as a guardian. A POC must be appointed by the Service member to maintain the Family housing and handle emergencies. The housing division and rear detachment commander must be notified in writing of the POC.

6. Will a service member lose their entitlement for government quarters if the family remains in the United States once the service member has been notified of deployment?

Answer: Family members who decide to wait in CONUS until after the deployment will not lose their entitlement to housing and will keep their position on the waiting list for quarters. Service members on waiting lists may elect to be bypassed on the list until they return from deployment or may have their spouses accept an offer of housing. Spouses may sign for housing and furnishings. A power of attorney is not required.

DEPLOYMENT QUESTIONS CONTINUED

RESIDING IN PRIVATE RENTAL HOUSING:

7. If I am deploying and live in Private Rental Housing on the economy do I have to terminate the lease and clear quarters before deployment?

Answer: Families and unaccompanied Service members residing in private rental housing (PRH) have the option of keeping or terminating the lease. Personnel who elect to terminate PRH leases are required by law to fulfill the contract terms in the lease agreement regarding termination notice, cleaning, damages, and redecoration. Costs associated with termination of the lease agreement are the sponsor's responsibility, and these expenses will not be reimbursed by the Government.

NOTE: Before an extended absence, unaccompanied personnel must notify the landlord of the absence and make arrangements for payment of rent, utilities, and telephone bills, and for the care and upkeep of the rental unit. Sponsors are responsible for fees associated with the disconnection and reconnection of utilities, telephone, and cable television when they voluntarily terminate PRH.

SERVICEMEMBERS IN UNACCOMPANIED PERSONNEL HOUSING

8. If I live in Senior Enlisted Bachelor quarters, Bachelor Officer Quarters or unit barracks will I need to clear my quarters before I deploy?

Answer: Service members may be required to vacate Government-controlled unaccompanied personnel housing (UPH) if the housing is needed to house follow-on forces. Personal property will be packed and stored at Government expense during deployment; better known as deployment storage. Reimbursement of telephone and cable television reconnection fees will be at Government expense.

9. Do I have to be present when the contractor packs my household goods for deployment?

Answer: The packing and storage contractor expects to pack all household goods (HHG) for single and unaccompanied Service members while the Service member is present. If the Service member is involved in other critical deployment duties or the unit departs on very short notice, the unit and Service member must plan to have someone oversee the packing process. When Service members cannot personally oversee the packing, they must choose someone they trust to do so for them and give that person a special power of attorney that authorizes the person to make packing arrangements.

10. As a single Soldier what are my entitlements for storage while I am deployed?

Answer: The Service member's maximum storage in-theater while deployed is the full Joint Federal Travel Regulations (JFTR) weight allowance minus the weight of HHG stored in CONUS. The full JFTR weight allowance is variable by grade and marital status and is greater than the restricted weight allowed for shipments in and out of theater. If a Service member's stored HHG exceed the shipping allowance for a permanent change-of-station (PCS) move and the Service member is required to make an emergency PCS during or at the end of deployment and does not get access to the stored goods to eliminate the excess weight, the installation transportation office may grant an increased shipping weight allowance to cover the excess up to the maximum storage weight.

11. Will the household goods I had stored for deployment be delivered to my quarters upon redeployment at government expense?

Answer: The personal property of unaccompanied Service members that was packed and stored at Government expense during deployment will be returned to the Service members housing at Government expense.

TEMPORARY LODGING ALLOWANCE

12. Upon return from deployment am I authorized to receive temporary lodging allowance (TLA)?

Answer: Interim TLA is authorized for Service members and their Family members in the following circumstances if quarters are not available when the Service member returns from deployment:

(1) The Service member maintained his or her position on a housing waiting list for Family housing and requested to be bypassed during the deployment.

(2) The Service member deployed on arrival in theater and was not on a waiting list for Family housing.

13. If I bring my family to Germany at my own expense after returning from deployment, am I authorized temporary lodging allowance (TLA)?

Answer: Interim TLA is authorized after command sponsorship is approved or reestablished in the circumstances listed below. All expenses incurred while waiting for command-sponsorship approval or reestablishment will be the responsibility of the sponsor (service member).

(1) The Service member's Family members terminate their assignment to Family housing and return to CONUS before or during the deployment at Government expense (early return of Family member orders).

(2) Married Army couples whose children returned to CONUS at Government expense (early return of Family member orders) during deployment.

14. When is temporary lodging allowance (TLA) not authorized upon return from deployment?

Answer: Interim TLA is not authorized for:

(1) Service members whose Family members terminated their assignment to Family housing and returned to CONUS at personal expense during the deployment.

(2) Married Army couples who terminated their assignment to Family housing before deployment.

15. If Senior Enlisted Bachelor Quarters (SEBQ) or Bachelor Officer Quarters (BOQ) are not available upon my return from deployment am I authorized TLA?

Answer: If Government-controlled housing is not available after an unaccompanied Service member's redeployment, interim TLA is authorized for the Service member while he or she is seeking private rental housing (PRH).